

religious groups are involving themselves in these anti-drug campaigns. There has been increased focus on rehabilitation and de-addiction programmes.

Sir, discrepancy between the number of cases registered and number of convictions and, increased use of minors in drug-trafficking are some of the concerns. It is learnt that the sources of drugs moving to Kerala are the drug agents mainly in metropolitan cities like Delhi-NCR and Bangalore, etc.

Yesterday, the Indian Navy caught a big haul of drugs, around 2.5 tonnes of hashish and all off the coast of Cochin. I urge the Union Government to look into the matter with utmost seriousness and give direction to the Narcotics Control Bureau to work in close co-ordination with Kerala State Policy and the Excise Department to eliminate the major drug lords located in metropolitan cities. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shri Abdul Wahab: Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Shri Niranjan Bishi (Odisha), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Shri Anil Kumar Yadav Mandadi (Telangana) and Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala).

Now, Shri Mukul Balkrishna Wasnik, not present; Shri Samik Bhattacharya — Demand to take steps to protect and restore Adinath Temple in Malda, West Bengal.

**Demand for take steps to protect and restore the Adinath Temple in Malda,  
West Bengal**

SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this august House to a matter of profound cultural and historical significance, that is, protection and restoration of Adinath Temple in Malda, West Bengal. The Adina mosque located in Pandua, Malda District was constructed in 1373 AD by Sultan Sikandar Shah of Bengal sultanate. This mosque was built using material of pre-existing Hindu and Buddhist structure including curved basel masonry and other architectural elements.

Notably, the carvings and motifs associated with Hindu deities such as Lord Vishnu and Lord Ganesha as well as lotus flower designs, sacred in Hinduism, are visible in various parts of this mosque. Local traditions and historical accounts suggest that the site was originally home to Adinath Temple dedicated to Lord Shiva and Lord Vishnu. The presence of Hindu iconography within the mosque and architecture support this assertion. Furthermore, during restoration, damaged *shivalingas* were reportedly discovered on the premises, underscoring the site of

Hindu heritage. The mosque has been abandoned since 19<sup>th</sup> century. Now, it is a listed monument under the Archaeological Survey of India. However, it is deeply concerning that the members of a certain community have been throwing stones at Hindu artefacts, obstructing the efforts to reclaim and restore this sacred site. Such acts of vandalism threaten the prevalence of India's culture and religious heritage. & "Sir, the Adinath Temple needs to be protected at any cost. Inside the temple, Shiva Lingam, Yoni Peeth and other Hindu symbols are present. But it is unfortunate that miscreants belonging to a particular community, on certain specific days, have been throwing stones on those symbols. If such attempts are continuously made to vitiate the atmosphere, then what is a symbol of the ancient tradition of West Bengal in particular and India at large and which is a testament to thousands of years of our history, would be in grave danger. The Adinath Temple is one of those thousands of temples, which was, following the invasion of West Bengal, destroyed by the invading hordes. Efforts are on by certain quarters to identify the temple as Adina Mosque in front of the world. I hope that the Government of India, the Archaeological Survey of India, will look into the matter seriously."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Shri Samik Bhattacharya: Shri Chunnial Garasiya (Rajasthan), Shri Madan Rathore (Rajasthan), Shri Kesridevsinh Jhala (Gujarat), Shri Deepak Prakash, (Jharkhand), Shri Mahendra Bhatt (Uttarakhand), Shri Pradip Kumar Varma (Jharkhand), Sh. Brij Lal (Uttar Pradesh) and Shri Mayankkumar Nayak (Gujarat).

Now, Dr. Fauzia Khan, 'Concern over the problem of proxy teachers in Government schools'.

### Concern over the problem of proxy teachers in Government Schools

डा. फौजिया खान (महाराष्ट्र): सर,

*'गुरु गोविन्द दोऊ खड़े, काके लागू पाय।  
बलिहारी गुरु आपने, गोविन्द दियो बताय ॥'*

These words of Kabir underscore the deep respect for teachers in our culture. Yet, today, this noble profession is marked by increasing commercialization and

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& English translation of the original speech delivered in Bengali.